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RESOLUTION NO. 57-09

BY: **ROY J. JECH, KENNETH A. RAMSER**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE
EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT, AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the organized labor movement is a critical bulwark of our democracy;
and,

WHEREAS, union density has fallen to historic lows due to decades of plant closings, outsourcing, speed-up, union-busting and other anti-labor policies promoted by previous administrations; and,

WHEREAS, the Employee Free Choice Act has been introduced into Congress to restore the right of workers to join a union through majority sign-up without fear of employer retaliation, as provided by the original Wagner Act of 1935; and,

WHEREAS, the Employee Free Choice Act retains the right of workers to vote in a secret ballot election on whether to be represented by a union if they so choose; and,

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Employee Free Choice Act had the overwhelming support of the House and majority support in the Senate and currently has the support of President Barack Obama, Senator Sherrod Brown, and Representatives John Boccieri, Marcia Fudge, Steve LaTourette, Marcie Kaptur, Dennis Kucinich, Tim Ryan and Betty Sutton; and,

WHEREAS, passage of the Employee Free Choice Act has been declared the top priority for the AFL-CIO, Change to Win and all sections of organized labor as well as having the endorsement of a broad coalition of civil rights, civil liberties, religious, peace, youth, senior, environmental and other organizations; and,

WHEREAS, the ability of workers to negotiate collectively for higher wages is crucial to raising living standards, reviving public buying power, restoring the tax base and ending the deepening crisis in our economy and public budgets; and,

WHEREAS, union density closely correlates with the ability of voters to elect progressive representatives and the ability of legislative bodies to enact programs to meet the needs of our citizens for better health care, education and public services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARMA, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That this Council hereby supports the Employee Free Choice Act.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to President Barack Obama, Senators Sherrod Brown and George Voinovich, and Congressman Dennis Kucinich.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Parma, and for the further reason that this measure is necessary in order to demonstrate the support of this Council, and this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon receiving the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected to Council and approval of the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED:_____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:_____

APPROVED:_____

CLERK OF COUNCIL

FILED WITH
THE MAYOR:_____

MAYOR, CITY OF PARMA, OHIO